

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

**Claim Status/Support for Amendments**

Claims 1, 3, 7, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 22-29, 31 and 34-40 have been amended. Claims 1-40 remain pending in the instant application.

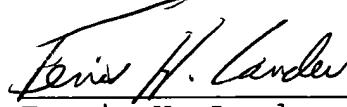
No new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims made herein.

The amendments have been made to explicitly recite characteristics of the antibodies and fragments thereof which are used in the claimed binding assay and methods/processes; to provide proper antecedent basis for all of the terms recited in the claims and to correct grammatical and typographical errors.

**CONCLUSION**

Upon entry of the instant amendment to the claims, Applicants respectfully request an examination on the merits in the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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